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Symington Cites Slash In Red-Missile Guess

The official intelligence estimate of Soviet missile strength he said, "by official proclamshas been reduced by 96.5 per tion," and once, in 1959, by cent in less than two years, according to Senator Syming- adding unmanned bombers to ton, Democrat of Missouri.

other officials had been acting estimates. in bad faith when they predicted a dangerous missile gap, Senator Symington said many officials had said publicly, and strength that we have received intelligence officers said pri- in the past two years raises sefor a long time.

The gap, however "had an tor Symington said, unaccountable way of narrowvanishing altogether," the Sen- Kennedy has underestimated porter magazine, out today.

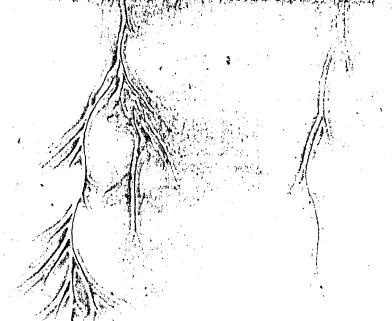
Senator Symington pointed by Democrate, including then cent by the end of 1964, has intary men, hat also by two Re- on 15-minute ground alert by publican Electrics of De- 50 per cent and is increasing fense and Control Intelligence Minutesman ICB: 1 production Agency directly Allen Dulles.

The gap sometimes changed, planned American ICBMs and Answering charges that he and leaving them off of Soviet

"The contradictory and confusing estimates of Soviet ICBM vately that a missile gap was rious questions about the accu-expected and would continue racy and effectiveness of our for a long time.

"Fortunately, there is no reaing, closing and occasionally son to believe that President ator said in an article in Re- the Soviet military strength, the Senator said.

The President, he said, is inout that the missile gap predic- creasing the number of Polaris tion had been reported not only submarine missiles by 50 per Senator Keunsely, and by mili-creased the number of bombers facilities by 100 per cent.



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